

Introduced by Senator Figueroa

February 24, 2006

An act relating to adoption.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1758, as introduced, Figueroa. Adoption facilitators.

Existing law provides a comprehensive scheme regarding adoption regulation, and also provides for the regulation of adoption facilitators, as defined.

This bill would declare the Legislature's intent to enact legislation that ensures the protection of birth parents or prospective adoptive parents in dealing with adoption facilitators. The bill would also set forth related findings and declarations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares
2 the following:
3 (1) The sharp rise in the number of adoptions, and a significant
4 increase in adoption fees, has created an expanding industry for
5 adoption facilitators in California.
6 (2) Adoption facilitators are not licensed as adoption agencies,
7 but are adoption intermediaries who are required to hold a
8 business license, be bonded in the amount of ten thousand dollars
9 (\$10,000), and are regulated by California law in the areas of
10 disclosure and advertising.
11 (3) Recent accounts of fraudulent practices by adoption
12 facilitators demonstrate that current regulations are not strict or

- 1 extensive enough to safeguard birth parents and prospective
- 2 adoptive parents from fraud.
- 3 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that
- 4 ensures the protection of birth parents and prospective adoptive
- 5 parents in dealing with adoption facilitators.